

and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Amendments

In the abstract:

Please amend the abstract to read as follows:

B
--A branching endoluminal prosthesis for use in branching body lumen systems includes a trunk lumen and first and second branch lumens. The prosthesis comprises a radially expandable tubular trunk portion having a prosthetic trunk lumen, and radially expandable tubular first and second branch portions with first and second prosthetic branch lumens, respectively. A radially expandable tubular Y-connector portion provides fluid communication between the prosthetic trunk lumen and the first and second prosthetic branch lumens. Although it is often considered desirable to maximize the column strength of endoluminal prosthesis, and although the trunk portion will generally have a larger cross-section than much of the remainder of a branching endoluminal prosthesis, the expanded trunk portion is more axially flexible than the expanded Y-connector portion, as insufficient flexibility along the trunk portion may result in leakage between the prosthesis and the trunk lumen of the body lumen system. In contrast, the Y-connector portion benefits from a less axially flexible structure to avoid distortion of the flow balance between the luminal branches.--

In The Claims:

Please cancel claims 10-17 and 45-56 without prejudice or disclaimer.